

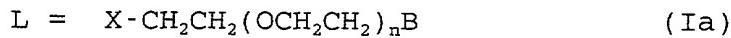
## CLAIMS

1. A method for removing water from surfaces of various materials, comprising the steps of covering said surface with a composition having a specific weight higher than that of the water and subsequently removing water from the composition by skimming, wherein a composition essentially consisting of the following components is used:

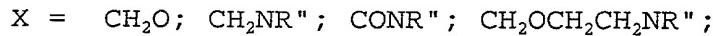
A) a non ionic additive having a fluoropolyether structure with a fluorinated T end group containing one chlorine atom, having the following formula:



wherein

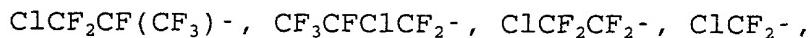


wherein:



with R'' = H; C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl,

T is a fluorinated radical selected from



Y = CF<sub>3</sub> or F,

the radical R<sub>f</sub> being of (per)fluoropolyether type;

being in said additive of formula (I):

- the number average molecular weight of the

fluoroether part  $T-OR_f-$  in the range 400-2,000,

the ratio by weight (K) between the fluorinated part and the hydrogenated L part of the additive is in the range 1.50-4.00; the n parameter in formula (Ia) being such as to meet said ratio;

- B) a perfluoropolyether having number average molecular weight in the range 300-900, the ratio  $K^1$  between the number average molecular weight of the fluoro-polyether part  $T-OR_f-$  of the additive and the number average molecular weight of component B) being higher than 1.60.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the number average molecular weight of the fluoroether part  $T-OR_f-$  of the compounds of formula (I) component A) is preferably in the range 500-1,200, still more preferably in the range 600-1,000.
3. A method according to claims 1-2, wherein the perfluoropolyether component B) has number average molecular weight preferably in the range 300-650.
4. A method according to claims 1-3, wherein the radical  $R_f$  of fluoropolyether type preferably comprises repeating units statistically distributed along the polymer chain

selected from:  $(CF_2CF_2O)$ ,  $(CFYO)$  wherein Y is equal to F or  $CF_3$ ,  $(C_3F_6O)$ ;  $(CF_2(CF_2)_zO)$  wherein z is an integer equal to 2 or 3;  $(CF_2CF(OR_f)O)$ ,  $(CF(OR_f)O)$  wherein  $R_f$  is equal to  $-CF_3$ ,  $-C_2F_5$ ,  $-C_3F_7$ ;  $CR_4R_5CF_2CF_2O$  wherein  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are equal to or different from each other and selected between Cl or perfluoroalkyl, preferably having 1-4 carbon atoms.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the group  $R_f$  comprises the following repeating units:

(a)  $-(CF_2CF(CF_3)O)_a(CFYO)_b-$

wherein Y is F or  $CF_3$ ; a and b are integers such that the molecular weight is in the above range; a/b is in the range 10-100;

(b)  $-(CF_2CF_2O)_c(CF_2O)_d(CF_2(CF_2)_zO)_h-$

wherein c, d and h are integers such that the molecular weight is within the above range; c/d is in the range 0.1-10; h/(c+d) is in the range 0-0.05, z has the above value, h can be equal to 0;

(c)  $-(CF_2CF(CF_3)O)_e(CF_2CF_2O)_f(CFYO)_g-$

wherein Y is F or  $CF_3$ ; e, f, g are integers such that the molecular weight is within the above range; e/(f+g) is in the range 0.1-10, f/g is in the range 2-10;

(d)  $-(CF_2O)_j(CF_2CF(OR_f)O)_k(CF(OR_f)O)_l-$

wherein:  $R_f$  is  $-CF_3$ ,  $-C_2F_5$ ,  $-C_3F_7$ ;  $j, k, l$  are integers such that the molecular weight is within the above range;  $k+l$  and  $j+k+l$  are at least equal to 2,  $k/(j+l)$  is in the range 0.01-1,000,  $1/j$  is in the range 0.01-100;

(e)  $- (CF_2(CF_2)_zO)_s -$

wherein  $s$  is an integer such as to give the above molecular weight,  $z$  has the already defined meaning;

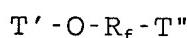
(f)  $- (CR_4R_5CF_2CF_2O)_j -$

wherein  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are equal to or different from each other and selected from H, Cl or perfluoroalkyl, having 1-4 carbon atoms,  $j'$  being an integer such that the molecular weight is the above one;

(g)  $- (CF(CF_3)CF_2O)_{j''} -$

$j''$  being an integer such to give the above molecular weight.

6. A method according to claims 1-5, wherein the value  $K^I$  is higher than 2.00 and preferably in the range 2.00-3.00.
7. A method according to claims 1-6, wherein the perfluoro-polyether component B) preferably has the following structure:

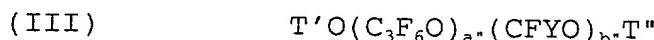


wherein:

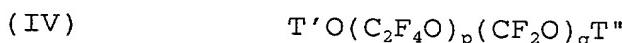
$R_f$  has the above meaning;

$T'$  and  $T''$ , equal to or different, are selected from  $-CF_3$ ,  $-C_2F_5$ ,  $-C_3F_7$ .

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the perfluoropolyether component B) has a structure selected from the following:



wherein  $Y = F$  or  $CF_3$ ,  $a''$  and  $b''$  are integers such that the molecular weight is within the range with  $a''/b''$  in the range 1-40;  $T'$  and  $T''$  are as above defined.



wherein  $p$  and  $q$  are integers such that the molecular weight is within the indicated range with  $p/q$  in the range 0.6-1.2;  $T'$  and  $T''$  are as above.



wherein  $s'$  is an integer such that the molecular weight is within the indicated range;  $T'$  and  $T''$  are as above.

9. A method according to claims 1-8, wherein the amount of additive A) in the compositions is lower than or equal to 0.1% by weight, preferably lower than 0.05% with respect to the total weight of the composition.

10. A composition according to claims 1-9.

11. Non ionic additive having a fluoropolyether structure

according to claims 1-9.